

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 04075 101831Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 CIAE-00
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 DODE-00 PM-04
/072 W

-----110429Z 110069 /73

R 101740Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1474
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
ERDA HQ WASHDC
ERDA HQ GERMANTOWN
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04075

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH ENRG PARM IAEA
SUBJECT: DIRECTOR GENERAL EKLUND'S RECOMMENDATIONS THAT
USG MAKE PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE CONCERNING
USE OF REACTOR GRADE PU IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS

REF: STATE 48932

1. IN OUR VIEW THERE MIGHT BE SOME BENEFIT IN MAKING
AVAILABLE TO A WIDER RANGE OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT AND
INDUSTRY OFFICIALS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE
UTILITY OF SPENT REACTOR FUEL FOR WEAPONS PURPOSES.
WHILE MOST UK GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY OFFICIALS ARE
PREPARED TO ACCEPT AND SHARE OUR CONCERNS, WE UNDERSTAND
THAT A NUMBER OF OTHER EUROPEANS, FOR EXAMPLE, ARE UN-
CONVINCED OF THE FACTUAL BASIS FOR OUR POSITION AND ARE
SKEPTICAL OF US MOTIVATION FOR EMPHASIZING THIS ISSUE.
DISSEMINATION OF AN EXPANDED INFORMATION PACKAGE TO IN-
FLUENTIAL INDIVIDUALS OF A KEY GROUP OF NATIONS WITH A
DECISIVE VOICE IN FORMULATING NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY.
SUCH AS THE LONDON SUPPLIERS GROUP, APPEARS DESIRABLE.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LONDON 04075 101831Z

2. AT THE SAME TIME, HOWEVER, WE QUESTION THE DESIRA-
BILITY OF OFFICIALLY CONFIRMING THE WEAPONS POTENTIAL
OF ALL REACTOR GRADE PLUTONIUM FOR A LARGER, COMPARATIVE-
LY UNINFORMED AUDIENCE. THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND MOST
JOURNALISTS ALREADY ASSUME THAT PLUTONIUM IS PLUTONIUM
AND THEREFORE HAS WEAPONS POTENTIAL, SO ANY FURTHER

ELABORATION WOULD SERVE NO USEFUL EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE.
CONVERSELY, IT SEEMS POINTLESS TO ELIMINATE ANY LINGER-
ING DOUBTS A NUMBER OF NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES MAY
HAVE ABOUT THE UTILITY OF SPENT REACTOR FUEL FOR ANY
WEAPONS PROGRAM THEY MAY CONTEMPLATE FOR NOW OR LATER.

3. ON TIMING, TABLING OF AN EXPANDED INFORMATION PACKAGE
EITHER CONCURRENTLY OR SUBSEQUENT TO THE OUTCOME OF THE
US NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY REVIEW SEEMS APPROPRIATE.
PRESUMABLY, SUCH A PACKAGE WOULD LEND SUPPORT TO THE
NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY CONCLUSIONS REACHED.

MILLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, RADIOACTIVE WASTES DISPOSAL, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON04075
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770083-0999
Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770374/aaaacmvm.tel
Line Count: 75
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3aadd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 48932
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3151851
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DIRECTOR GENERAL EKLUND'S RECOMMENDATIONS THAT USG MAKE PUBLIC INFORMATION RELEASE CONCERNING USE OF REACTOR GRADE PU IN NUCLEAR WEAPONS
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, PARM, US, IAEA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3aadd1ba-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009